



**USAID | MACEDONIA**  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## PRESS RELEASE

### U.S. Rolls Out IT Equipment to Promote e-Government Services in Macedonian Municipalities

Nearly \$1 million worth of computers, servers, software programs and networking hardware donated from the American people, through the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), is being delivered to local governments throughout Macedonia. Over the next year, up to 56 municipalities will receive equipment to support the core Information Technology needs for financial management, tax administration, and/or urban planning at the local level. This effort is organized by USAID's Decentralization Project, which supports Macedonian municipalities as they face the challenges associated with the ongoing process of bringing governmental institutions and services closer to citizens in their own communities. USAID is part of the U.S. Mission in Macedonia.

"Municipal management, particularly the efficient management of public revenues and expenditures at the local level, will have a major impact on determining the success of the decentralization process in Macedonia. Through the specific assistance and consultations provided by USAID's Decentralization Project, we can best support the development of decentralized good governance," said William Althaus, Chief of Party for the USAID Decentralization Project in Macedonia.

All equipment donated to municipalities by the USAID Decentralization Project is backed by a three-year warranty. Equipment delivery will be followed by a variety of training programs in software usage and system maintenance for municipal employees. When the training and equipment are in place, the participating Macedonian municipalities will be in a better position to provide varied e-Government solutions to their citizens, aimed at encouraging greater efficiency and transparency in local government services.

#### NOTES TO EDITORS:

The American people, through USAID, have invested more than \$450 million in Macedonia since 1993. More than 20 projects worth \$30 million a year are currently being implemented. These projects are designed to support Macedonia's transition to a free market-based, multi-ethnic democracy. They include initiatives to accelerate economic growth, develop democratic institutions, and educate citizens for a modern economy. USAID provides economic and humanitarian assistance in more than 100 countries. For more information please visit <http://macedonia.usaid.gov>